

Statements in bold are directly from the statute IC 36-8-16.7-38.

Permitted uses of distribution by PSAPs; annual reports to board by PSAPs; state board of accounts annual audit of PSAP expenditures; review by board; reports to budget committee; county 911 funds

Sec. 38. (a) A PSAP may use a distribution from a county under this chapter only for the following:

(1) The lease, purchase, or maintenance of communications service equipment.

Definition of "communications service equipment."

IC 36-8-16.7-7

"Communications service"

Sec. 7. (a) As used in this chapter, "communications service" means any service that:

- (1) uses telephone numbers or IP addresses or their functional equivalents or successors;
- (2) allows access to, or a connection or interface with, a 911 system through the activation or enabling of a device, transmission medium, or technology that is used by a customer to dial, initialize, or otherwise activate the 911 system, regardless of the particular device, transmission medium, or technology employed;
- (3) provides or enables real time or interactive communications, other than machine to machine communications; and
- (4) is available to a prepaid user or a standard user.

(b) The term includes the following:

- (1) Internet protocol enabled services and applications that are provided through wireline, cable, wireless, or satellite facilities, or any other facility or platform that is capable of connecting a 911 communication to a PSAP.
- (2) A multiline telephone system.
- (3) CMRS.
- (4) Interconnected VOIP service and voice over power lines.
- (5) Integrated telecommunications service (as defined in 47 CFR 400.2).

As added by P.L.132-2012, SEC.20.

Distribution guidelines that will be used:

The definition of communications service equipment restricts expenditures under this section to the equipment required to allow a PSAP to receive 9-1-1 calls from any technology.

Examples:

1. Customer Premise Equipment – either on-site or a hosted solution.
2. Transmission medium (Fiber, T1, broadband, cablemodem, wireless, etc.) initial purchase or reoccurring costs only for devices that are directly connected to the 9-1-1 network.

(2) Necessary system hardware and software and data base equipment.

Distribution guidelines that will be used:

Necessary is defined as *essential*, meaning hardware, software and database equipment that is directly connected to the 9-1-1 network and used by a PSAP to receive and process a 9-1-1 call.

Examples

1. GIS Mapping
2. Computer Aided Dispatch hardware and software. This is limited to the CAD that the PSAP itself (the fixed location facility) uses for call detail entry and data storage. This does not include Records Management (RMS); Mobile Client; Jail or any other software beyond that required to provide the function of dispatch and call history within the PSAP itself.
3. Radio Equipment – This is limited to the radio necessary (essential) radio equipment that a PSAP uses to dispatch the emergency to the first responders.
4. Remote radio transmission hardware/software, antennas; items used to provide dispatch radio communication beyond the range of radio equipment located at the PSAP itself.
5. Technology used to connect the PSAP radio to the remote transmitter (T1, broadband, microwave, wireless).
6. Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) software.
7. Addressing directly to support the function of 9-1-1.
8. Database management.
9. Internet connectivity.
10. Computers, servers, switches, cabling used in the PSAP.
11. Maintenance contracts on hardware and software.

(3) Personnel expenses, including wages, benefits, training, and continuing education, only to the extent reasonable and necessary for the provision and maintenance of:

(A) the statewide 911 system; or

(B) a wire line enhanced emergency telephone system funded under IC 36-8-16 (before its repeal on July 1, 2012).

Distribution guidelines that will be used:

- a. Counties should ensure that the personnel expenses paid from the fund is for employees whose primary job responsibilities are receiving, processing and dispatching 9-1-1 calls and the management or coordination of those services.
- b. The training and continuing education is limited to those courses that directly relate to 9-1-1 services and are offered as professional development. This would include training offered by nationally recognized professional organizations such as NENA or APCO. Travel, lodging, meals for training courses are allowable.

Examples

1. 9-1-1 call takers, dispatchers or telecommunications specialists, PSAP management, GIS personnel, etc.
2. Emergency Medical Dispatching (EMD).
3. Telecommunicators Courses.
4. Emergency Fire Dispatching (EFD).
5. Department of Homeland Security Courses.

6. Courses offered by vendors for their product (that is an eligible expense itself) that is used in a PSAP.

(4) Operational costs, including costs associated with:

(A) utilities;

Examples: water, sewer, electricity, phone, broadband for operating a PSAP.

(B) maintenance;

Examples: Repairs that do not add significant value to the property or extend its life. They are reasonable in amount and are necessary to keep the property in habitable condition. Repairs are generally considered restoring an item to its previous good condition. Examples of repairs include the following:

- a) refinishing a wood floor;
- b) repainting a room;
- c) repairing a roof;
- d) repairing existing plumbing;
- e) repairing existing appliances;
- f) replacing a doorknob;
- g) replacing a window;
- h) replacing a broken smoke detector;
- i) replacing rotted floorboards; or
- j) replacing cracked floor tiles.

Renovation, on the other hand, is generally defined as follows:

An improvement is any type of renovation that will extend the useful life of the property. Improvements are generally considered adding something that was not previously there, upgrading something that was existing or adapting the asset to a new use. Improvements are usually more intensive than repairs and usually involve greater cost. Examples of improvements include the following:

- a) adding an addition or remodeling an existing facility;
- b) adding central air conditioning;
- c) installing a security system;
- d) installing brand new carpet;
- e) replacing an entire roof;
- f) replacing all existing plumbing;
- g) replacing all existing electric; or
- h) replacing all windows.

(C) equipment designed to provide backup power or system redundancy, including generators; and

Examples: generators, UPS system for emergency power which includes system fuel/power source.

(D) call logging equipment

Examples equipment used to record audio/video communications between a 9-1-1 caller, PSAP and first responders.

(5) An emergency notification system that is approved by the board under section 40 of this chapter.

(6) Connectivity to the Indiana data and communications system (IDACS).

(7) Rates associated with communications service providers' enhanced emergency communications system network services.

Examples: Charges imposed by a communication service provider for an enhanced service provided to a PSAP.

(8) Mobile radio equipment used by first responders, other than radio equipment purchased under subdivision (9) as a result of the narrow banding requirements specified by the Federal Communications Commission. –

Distribution guidelines that will be used:

- a. Mobile and portable are interchangeable terms used by the industry to describe hardware used by first responders for radio communications. The advancements in technology allows first responders to use either a mobile or a portable radio in the same environment and not necessarily be equipped with both.
- b. Radio equipment purchased using revenue from the 9-1-1 fund shall remain the property of county government.

Examples

1. Mobile/portable radio used by first responders to communicate with the PSAP.

(9) Up to fifty percent (50%) of the costs associated with the narrow banding or replacement of radios or other equipment as a result of the narrow banding requirements specified by the Federal Communications Commission.

Distribution guidelines that will be used:

(b) A PSAP may not use a distribution from a county under this chapter for the following:

(1) The construction, purchase, renovation, or furnishing of PSAP buildings.

(2) Vehicles.

Distribution guidelines that will be used:

While there are only 2 items specifically stated in IC 36-8-16.7 that are prohibited expenditures from the fund, items 1 through 9 had the legislative intent of placing limits the eligible expenses.

Examples of ineligible expenses

(This list is offered as an example of ineligible expenses and is not considered all inclusive.)

1. General office supplies (paper, pens, pencils, ink cartridges, paperclips, postage, etc.)
2. Office equipment (chairs, furniture, consoles, copier, facsimile, filing cabinets)
3. Kitchen appliances, televisions, and break room equipment.
4. Software such as RMS, mobile client, jail software, etc.
5. Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) software and operational expense for first responders.
6. Air cards for first responders.
7. Laptops in first responder vehicles.
8. Public Education.
9. Cell phones.
10. Legal advertisements, sponsorships.

Provided, however, that the prohibition on the use of 911 fees for construction, purchase, renovation, furnishing, or leasing of real property shall not apply to the extent it would result in the impairment of any existing contract.

If you have a question regarding an expense that is not included in this document, you are encouraged to contact the Statewide 9-1-1 office at (317) 234-8362 or by email at statewideboard@In911.net